-7-

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 8, 2005 and in response to the telephone interview with the examiner and her primary on January 5, 2006. The examiners are thanked for their time and helpful comments. In the Office Action, claims 1-11 and 18-31 were pending of which all pending claims were rejected. The Office Action reports that the previous rejection of claims 1-5, 8-10, and 12-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by King (U.S. Patent 5,953,541) had been removed based on the amendment filed on September 1, 2005. However, the Office Action indicates new grounds for rejection exists for claims 1-5, 8-10, and 18-22.

In particular, the Office Action reports that claims 1-5, 8-10, and 18-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over King (U.S. Patent 5,953,541). It is submitted that King does not teach or suggest all the features of claim 1. It is believed that King discloses a system for disambiguating ambiguous and unambiguous input text received from a user. As discussed in the interview, in the King system, a user can input text using a plurality of keys, typically on a reduced keyboard. Thus, the input text can be ambiguous because each key can indicate more than one letter and/or digit. Further, the King system is capable of unambiguous input such as when the user presses in a particular location of a key on the keypad. In the interview, FIG. 1A was discussed to point out in more detail the differences between King and the pending claims. For example, reference items 78, 79, and 80 represent words "age," "aid," and "bid," which are believed to be words corresponding to ambiguous key input where the ABC, GHI, and DEF keys are activated in sequence. The words "age," "aid," and "bid," are selected based on probability. Further, reference items 81 and 82 representing "che" and "ahe" are word stems or parts of words. Reference item 84 represents a sequence of digits that can also correspond with the

-8-

same key input. Finally, reference item 83 or "bhe" can correspond to unambiguous input where the keys are physically activate in a certain area of the keys, e.g. the center of the key. However, as discussed in the interview, the computer or device is reacting to key input from the user.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a method of providing a user-desired word into a computer, the method comprising the steps of: (a) having the computer select a character in an alphabetical range; (b) having the computer select a word as a function of the selected character, the selected word having a character sequence; (c) presenting the word to the user; (d) <u>receiving an indication from the user indicating whether a user-desired character of the desired word is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character or whether the computer-selected character matches the user-desired character;</u> and (e) adjusting the range of characters or retaining the computer-selected character based on the user's indication. [emphasis added]

The amendments to claim 1 clarify that the user can indicate whether the desired character precedes or succeeds the computer-selected character <u>or</u> whether the user-desired character matches the computer-selected character. As discussed in the interview, the user is reacting to words or characters selected by the computer and presented to the user. During the interview, FIG. 7 of the present application was discussed where the user can react by indicating that the desired character is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character, such as by pushing an "up" or "down" key. The user can also indicate a match between the computer-selected character and the desired character, such as by pushing an "enter" or "right" key.

During the interview, embodiments associated with FIG. 8 were also discussed. It is believed that claim 1 is generic to embodiments associated with FIGS. 7 and 8. In FIG. 8, when "said"

-9-

is displayed, the user indicates that the desired character is alphabetically preceding the computer-selected character "s" of the computer-selected word "said" by activating the "2" key. When "can" is displayed, the user indicates that computer-selected character "a" matches the desired character "a" by activating the "right" key. Then the user activates the "8" key to indicate that the user-desired character "t" is alphabetically succeeding the computer-selected character "n."

Claim 2 clarifies that if the user indicates the desired character precedes or succeeds the computer-selected character then the range of characters is adjusted to a range bounded by the computer-selected character. Claim 3 clarifies that if the user indicates a match between the desired character and the computer-selected character, then the computer-selected character is retained. It is noted that the amendments to claim 1 were made merely for clarification and not in response to the cited art.

The Office Action contends that King at Col. 12, lines 5-34 discloses the features of <u>having the computer select</u> a character in a range of characters, <u>having the computer select</u> a word as a function of the selected character, the selected word having a character sequence, and <u>receiving an indication from the user pertaining to the computer selected character</u>. However, as discussed above and in the interview, it is believed that the computer of the King system reacts to the input of the user. In contrast, in the present inventions the action/reaction is reversed and the user reacts or provides feedback to the character and/or word selected by the computer. [See Specification, page 13, line 19 to page 14, line 1]

Further, as noted above, claim 1 has been amended. Thus, it is believed that King does not teach or suggest receiving an indication from the user indicating whether a user-desired character of the desired word is alphabetically preceding or

-10-

succeeding the computer-selected character or whether the computer-selected character is the user-desired character.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art. Claims 2-11 and 23-24 depend on claim 1 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-11 and 23-24 are respectfully requested.

Claim 18 has been amended to clarify that the user is providing feedback in response to the characters and/or words selected by the computing device. As stated above and as discussed in the interview, it is believed that the King system requires the user to input text and have the system react to the user's input. In light of the foregoing, it is believed that King does not teach or suggest all of the features of claim 18. Thus, it is believed that claim 18 is patentable over the cited art. Claims 19-22 and 25-26 depend on claim 18 are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 18-22 and 25-26 are respectfully requested.

Claim 27 has also been amended in a manner similar to claim 18. Above remarks are incorporated herein. Claim 28-31 depend on claim 27 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 27-31 are respectfully requested.

The Office Action also reports that claims 6, 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over King in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,005,495 to Connolly (hereinafter Connolly). As discussed above, claims 6, 7, and 11 depend on claim 1, which has been amended. Nevertheless, Connolly discloses a method and system for intelligent text entry on a numeric keypad. It is believed the user selects a key on a keypad where the key (similar to King) can indicate more than one character. The system of Connolly then predicts which character is intended by the user. The user then confirms or rejects the

-11-

predicted character until the predicted character is confirmed. However, as discussed in the interview, Connolly like King is reacting to initial input from the user. In contrast, as discussed above, in the present inventions the user is providing feedback to the character and/or word initially selected by the computer. Thus, it is submitted that Connolly also does not teach or suggest all the features of claim 1 and claims 6, 7, and 11 which depend on claim 1. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 6, 7, and 11 are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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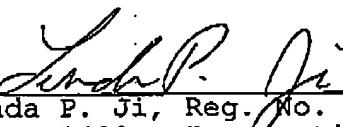
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